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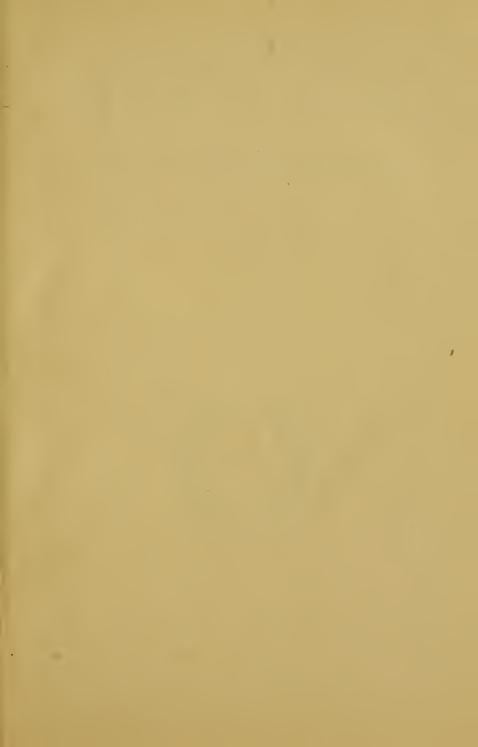
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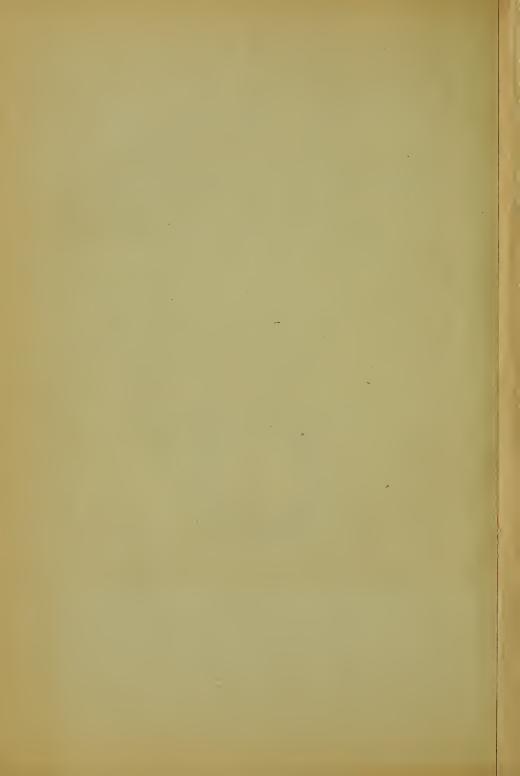






THE PALM DOVE'S SONG





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Ford, Mrs Edna C Hillyer

c Sos angles, R. y. Mc But

Presented to Conquesional Library.

July 27. 1922,

Edna Hillyn Hord.

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PROLOGUE.

The world of men, in truth;
Too busy is;
The world of books, too full
Of heresies;
The world of thought, does deal
In specialties;
"What shall we do?"

Believe the best, of course,
Of busy man;
Seek the foundation-stone,
In every plan;
The light has run in lines
Since time began.
"To God be true."



THE DOVE'S IDENTITY.



SONG.

The Palm Dove flew from Paradise,
And with him flew his mate,
Their hearts were bound with the life of Man,
And bound with his, their fate.

Mankind went forth from Paradise,
But was with life content;
The Doves flew fast the earth around,
They were with message sent.

The Man thought not of Eden-land, Shut out from all its bloom; And in the cares of earthly life, Forgot his first, best home.

A Palm Dove came to Man again
Its message all untold;
And Man knew not, and the Dove forgot
The need of the message old.

The Man wrought hard success to win,
The Dove did mute remain;
Until the time of the telling was,
It could not sing again;

As frightened child on errand sent, Each time it tried to tell Some angel seemed to hush its voice, Or demon, sent from Hell;

At last, again it caught the thought And then flew near and far; But no one heeding when it spoke, Its message told in air.

One soul alone caught what it told; "It shall sing again," said he, "It shall see the face of Him it loves, "And Man from sin help free."

"It shall know the power of Sin is gone; "And, Man redeemed again, "It then in Paradise shall rest, "And sing o'er Eden's plain."

O ye, to whom some message's given, Tho' long delayed it be; Work on, and strive, and speak, and live, Gain Heaven's eternity.

RECITATIVE. THE DOVE'S GENEALOGY AND MISSION.



RECITATIVE.

Of what my father knew he told To me the part his father told To him; we tell not all, nor can We sing 'til Man has heard And us believed.

We are the Doves:

We sailed in air
Before we sailed with Noah in
The flood; and there was Man near lost,
And with him lost our souls, but for
Our gracious deed.

When Noah

Sent the raven out it went And staid; but we Brought back to him a branch of hope, And with its fair freshness, new life And hope, and love.

Since then, not once,
But oft a Dove ransom
Has paid for Man, who, ransomed now
And once for all,
Must know that by himself he fell
And seek to rise, by self, if he
Must needs, or learns he has a soul
Which calls for God; for, "By

The Grace of God" the wise will rise Toward perfectness.



RECITATIVE. THE MAN ALONE IN EDEN.



RECITATIVE.

The Man was placed in Eden, just Before the rock whereon we perched, And there he lay.

Awaked, he sat, Then rising upright, stood, And wondering seemed of how, and why, And where he'd come;

He looked about, gazed at the sun, Its blue he saw, blotting it out With both his hands;

He sank to Earth

And rested there, upon A mound of sand. He looked upon The Earth, and then Upon his feet and hands,

Spread out Before him his long arms, then gazed From finger-tips out toward a lake

Which lay beyond; there first He saw the azure sky mirrored For him, lest he Should fail to look above.

So new
To Man was all, he did not know
All else was old but he, the last
And least creation; small
Indeed, but seeking reasons how,

And whence, and why He'd come, and whither he would go.

In bliss and ignorance he sat, Nor knew his Maker had a right;—

Since He Himself knew life From span to span; one perfect soul

T' enclose in clay.

Afar we heard the trumpetings Of elephants;

The Man, too, heard;

He turned about, and watched their slow And stately march.

When him

They saw, they swerving came, and formed About the Man A semi-circle, vast and dark,

And halted for a sign;

Then Adam

Arose and stood, while with his new-

Found hands unconsciously He made a sign to those great beasts; With his thin wrists

And helpless hands he'd spoke to them Unwittingly.

Approached toward him

The stately leader of the herd;

Its mighty frame before The Man kneeling, rested upon

The trembling earth.

The Man stepped lightly forth, drew near The beast, and lightly sate upon

Its neck:

Slowly the pondrous beast Swayed to its feet, and stood; Stately it stood, leader of all

Its kind:

Upon Its neck, and with it; raised Mankind Above the level of all beasts As had been its command. It gave

A signal, at which sign The great herd parted; then appeared The second in size To it; which stood in place, facing The Man, who intent viewed them all.

Instant each trunk arose, and waved In air; instant a sound Of trumpetings from them proclaimed Aloud to Heaven Man recognized by them as lord, And by them loved.

From that time forth The Man and herd were friends; the wise And gentle leader or His mate, Adam's guardians; they went And came with him.

Life then was new, the man content. The Sun by day its rays cast down, Adam lived within its light; trees leaned Toward him, upon him cast Blossoms and fruit.

He picked the leaves.

Spreading them out Upon the sand; he placed those most Alike in clust'ring rows.

The husks

He took of palmetto, and coarse Grass wove like them, so like It seemed.

With vines he bound long rolls Of woven grass Together like a mat; with moss He padded it, then on the back Of elephant bound fast with ropes Of pliant vines; at last

He had a rude howdah, fit for A king;

In it

He lay, and rode about, alert To all that came in sight by dawn; In safety lay through darkest night;

Dread night, dread Moon, whose oft Changing made him afraid; and left

Him so;

For her

He longed, but knew she was the Sun's Fair mate; the Sun's alone, not Man's; The Sun seemed friend, likewise the trees; Also the beasts which came From out the woods and jungles dense To gaze on Man. In turn he them surveyed.

When each

One passed the Man, he spake to it, And thus its name was fixed for time;

Some habit, mark, or sign, Some fancied likeness, called Man's thought In speech from out His lips.

He beasts observed, and all Their ways like his; they ate, they slept, They walked, they ran,—not slowly trode

Like elephants, which beasts Were gone, at times, for days, and then Adam felt alone.

One beast beside, Man saw,

A beast
Most strange, walking upright, like him;
This beast had wings, which, like great leaves,
Closed and unclosed themselves;
As if at will they rose and fell
Like wings of bats;
This entertained the Man, and in
The hot mid-day these wings gave forth
A breeze which soothed and fanned the Man,

And kept him close beside The courteous beast.

As for this great,

This gorgeous beast,
This dragon-crocodile; we do
Not know; we cannot tell what joy
Filled all its heart; what dreams, what soft
And timid flutt'rings rose

As Adama touched its leathry sides, So cool and moist.

All other beasts, with this, and his Great elephants, seemed like hugh toys To Man, so diverse from their kind Was he.

The fan-winged beast
He liked, and oft had Adam, seated
Upon its head,
The surface of the lake skimmed o'er
Watching the fish that nimbly swam
The sparkling waves, waves blue as sky
Above.

Of beasts, the two
Which most amused the Man, were tall
Giraffes, which in
The trees above Man's easy reach
Could thrust their heads about, and pick
The ripened fruits and nuts for him;—

And bears unwieldy, in Whose furry coats he hid his hands; They, too, were friends.

Upon their backs, so broad and soft, He often sat, and stroked their curly Fur; he often lay beside

Them when he slept; when cold, On sunny side; when shone the sun, He lay upon
The side where fell the shade; Man had So many friends.

Above the beasts
Were other friends; the Sun, the Moon,
Serene, oft changing Moon
Which menaced him when risen, when gone,
Man, terrified,
Crept close to elephant or bear
And loved to hear them breathe; these, with
Himself—upon the coming of

The radiant, rising Sun
Saluted it, each his own way.
Then all us birds
Sang joyously. Those were the days
When peace on earth was here, and all

With war of gun and stick, And stone; such tranquil days I would See Eden again.

The noisy crowd of boys was not,

When high the sun arose, a weight Over great crocodile seemed thrown;— A weight of sleep, heavy as lead.

Its first sleep o'er, then oft

Waked it, to see the man was safe, Then closed—content— Its three eyelids, in haste to dream Its dreams again, or lose itself In sleep.

This beast was named "Satan," And it loved Man; loved him

With all its heart, and him alone Of all that lived.

Great joy the Man gave it; one touch Of Man's warm hand upon its side, Its leath'ry side, made ripples—run

To mountain waves of joy—Flow fast from tipmost snout and tail Back to its heart,
Its beastly heart, and out again.
It clasped its wing upon the spot

The Man had touched to keep it warm;

Its flattened, heavy head
It trembling waved from side to side
In rapturous

Delight.

The Man was its one chance For Heaven, and him it loved. So passed The equal days and nights, and Adam

Was listless, then, perchance,

Industrious. Daily he bathed; And bathed in state;

Great elephants bathed first within The margin of the lake, then stood The herd with look intent, while from

The lake the leader of
The herd approached the waiting Man
And—none too gently—
Sprayed him well with water from
His trunk; the Man would catch his breath,
And jump about until he'd bathed

Enough; with hands, or in The sand he'd dry himself, then run Lightly beside

Lightly beside The elephant;

The herd, alert, Then raised on high their trunks, and gave

Salute to Man, their leader's king.

From elephant to bird Each living friend of Man's seemed bound, From common cause,

By law inviolate, one of
Its kind to choose from all the rest
As special one, from thence to be

Its own; to live, and eat,

And rest by it.

Such mate had not

The crocodile

Beelzebul, whom Adam found Beside the lake, sunning itself; An insect large it seemed,

Alike to man in this,
They were unlike each creature else;
No bond but this
Existed then, and Satan thought
No jealous thought.

Then was invent

An attribute of earthly mould, "Platonic love," and it The Serpent felt; no cause had it For jealousy.

Most gladly staid the crocodile Beside the margin of the lake Where it had found, unvexed, secure, A tranquil resting-place.

Since it, from Heaven cast out, had made A resting place,—
Apart from those who'd fallen with it;
Its eyes the heinousness of Sin
Had seen, and lost its love for it,

And for the baleful train Which followed in its track And brought no joy. For Sin no love Adam bore, he had Not seen its form, nor all its foul, Fetid and fatal loathesomeness;

Beast Satan had;—and Hell Once left, with all its brood of Sins, The great beast's deathless soul;—For it had chosen to be a beast In look (tho' not in fact) t' escape The place, nor once again endure

The sweet and sickly stench
Of Sin's vile wiles;—his soul—for whoso

Has a soul
Is him or her—loathed Sin's embrace.
Once out of Hell, and free, he staid;
But left the gates of Hell unclosed;

And inwardly they swing, And ever inward swing and yawn For whoso comes.

O'er birds Sin has no power, but this We know; Hell freely lets men in But never out.

There is no need
That Hell should hold the one
Repentant one, since men are found
To willingly
Take up his work.

These with great zest,

And in apparent glee, carry It on for sake of gain, nor care

Who falls, nor what befalls Themeslves; nor care their wives, children, Nor worldly friends, Until too late they find they've made Themeslves within Hell's flames; horrid And endless flames,—a place of woe

Like that they made on earth For wives and babes, and hungry men Unhoused, unfed,

No need of "chiefs" in Hell, since these Do work for Hell, and take their hire In coin, and pay again into

Town treasuries license
To sin. The license does not say "Thou must
For us then, lose

Thy soul." By their free will they bind Themselves by name, that there be no Mistake, and sell they do, of that

Which makes of Man a beast. A curse rings in their ears, the noise

Recearch founds to Exath - not eternal perishment for

Of which they'd stop With fire, and have it done, if they But could; but no, the mete they on Earth meted out, shall be their share

In Hell, where wealth, so gained, Can buy no ease; so they in vain In torment moan, And weep, and rage; knowing at last That what is gained by helping Sin To rule the Earth, is lost when weighed

In balance with a mind Which justly suffers for the woes It helped create.

Adam could not know of this, but we Have learned it since. Adam was a child, Childlike his way seemed clear, from day

To day was spread before 'Him all the world, his world, and this Sufficient was.

On elephant he rode about, And when he liked, he staid at home. The tall giraffe oft plucked him fruit

Placed high beyond his reach.
Once Adam essayed to climb for fruit,
We birds did laugh

We birds did laugh.

From passing drooping boughs Adam wit From trial had learned; he coiled his hair About his head in many folds

And pinned with thorns, when he Began to climb; arrived on high He downward fell; But for a lock of hair which caught Upon a branch, full to the ground He'd gone; the branch he clutched, and firm Footing upon a branch Below.

Then stood the Man aloft,

A branch above,

A branch below; himself held fast. So stood he there, and thought, and then Plucked out with his free hand, and hair

By hair, the lock which held Secure from farther fall, a Man Both sad and wise.

This done, he clambered downward to His grave old elephant, who laid Moist, cooling leaves upon the wound.

When Adam again began To climb, he was held fast by trunk Inflexible.

At home, down from the woods the bears Arrived; upon their backs were stored Sweet honey-combs;

Their friend they thus

Remembered when they
Returned. Far in the rocks these tame
And cunning bears
Had found stored up, and brought away
The glorious honey-combs.

Of this

They'd eat their fill at once,—the bees Came not, and—satisfied—
They thought of Adam, or lazily
Had brought some home.
The bees flew not in Eden, they lived
Outside; and stored, without a thought
Of theft, their treasure-cells within
The rocks or trees.

Adam loved

The sweet and blossom-scented food; He laid his face Close, close beside the bear's, and growled And hummed like it; and clasped its neck, Its shaggy neck, with both his arms

And thought aloud, "When next

"A little bear appears, I'll have

"It for my mate,

"We then will go and find the honey "For ourselves, and stay away."

The other creatures that he touched Were young of birds.

He watched

Their nests and fed the young with fruits And nuts ground fine Between his teeth.

He watched the nests Of birds, and if in tree-leaves hid His elephant would hold the lithe

And swaying branches down,
Or patiently would wait, while Adam
Stood secure for hours
Upon its pachydermous back,
And watched the nest; the eggs he'd count,
One, three; five, six; he knew at sight.

He touched the eggs, and dropped Them, too. To him it was a most

Intense surprise

That pebbles from a tree should break, And forth should spill their contents out, Strange, strange indeed; beyond the facts He'd learned; nor could he them Repair; in vain he tried his best, There seemed no way.

He sought for stones, and filled the nest, He filled it full, full to the brim; He noticed this, birds never claimed

Nor sat thereon, when thus He'd done. Thoughtful he then became. From out the nest Two eggs he'd take, and in their place Two pebbles lay. Then watched he well, And, O, his joy; the old birds did

Not notice it; alas, In time the birdlings came, beside Them lay the stones
As they were placed; no yellow, wide
And gaping mouths; no skinny throats,

Came stretching up midst tender wings
Emerging from their shells;

Nor would they break when dropped. He stored In vain pebbles

Of every size, to match the eggs Of all the birds within his reach.

Man waiting, watched and worked, ofttimes

He lay full length upon The elephant and dreamed, his couch Of grass his nest.

Week after week, and month by month He wondered and observed.

The young

Of all the birds and beasts grew like The old; in time matured, From tiniest birdling to the baby Elephant;

Not one grew like to him of all That moved about; not one had such A foot, nor one a hand nor arm

Like his, not one, not one; The trees and plants he loved, but they Were always there.



RECITATIVE.
ADAM'S FALL.



RECITATIVE.

Then came a lonely day when all The elephants were gone. In march Ordered they went, and two by two,

The young beside their dam. Alone was Adam, no one but he, Except that beast,

The crocodile.

Satan himself

Was left as guard. In vain did strive The beast; in vain did stand upright;

His napping time had come And drowziness him seized; but Adam

Slept not, nor sat,

In all the glare of blazing day.

Down Satan sank, watchful he'd be

Though he himself should sleep. He thought

"Adam is alone, what harm

"Can come to Man, what harm indeed?"

So Satan slept.

Man was alone; one pair of bears Slept on serene; the small one of

The other pair, alert and full

Of fun, played close at hand.

The wakeful little beast played there

Alone awhile;

She was the one who oftenest brought Sweet honey-comb to Adam. Her mate'd Been cone for days was this one left

Been gone for days, was this one left

For Adam then? Man thought Why not for him? He felt all through His frame of flesh A shudder run:

He fondled and Caressed the beast, he fawned around, And kissed the brute, his frenzied mind No difference saw in race. What subtly stole his sense away? A languorous dread To fear soon changed, to trembling fear,

For, far off in the woods, he heard The lusty call to her of her

Returning mate.

Down ran

The little bear into the lake Nor thought of Adam; Unlucky Adam, her furry coat Clutching; he ran, and stumbled down, And sank with her into the lake.

Man Adam was drowned, since he Of beast, and with a beast, had him Mated.

The bear unconsciously swam on, She, witless, by her gifts had won The Man.

Was Adam drowned? Why not? Above his head the bright And merry wavelets floated in The Sun.

Before

That day we doves had sung, but since We never sing; we chirp, and coo, And mourn.

> Above Adam's head arose Some bubbles bright of air.

The Man had loved a beast; again Man rose above

The waves; he gave a scream of fear, The first despairing scream of fear; Brute that she was, the bear had heard

The scream, and turned;—close shut

Her mouth over the waves of Adam's

Long, floating locks;

Then swam, and drew him to the shore; She drew him, senseless, o'er the sand That scorched beneath the sun. From her

Wet sides she shook out showers, Drenching the Man with drops. She saw

Her mate's return.

She buried from his sight the Man; She reared; an instant stood upright; Then dropped, and sprang to meet her spouse. A sound

Unique enstopped our ears, a laugh

From Satan's jaws. On haunches raised, with head thrown back, From saw-like lips full tensely strained Came chuckles vast; a noise most like

Unto the noise of pent But gurgling water, rolled from out His frog-like throat When laughed that fallen prince.

From both

His eyes, half closed in mirthfulness, Now sparkled out, twinkled unchecked

The thought that he alone Possessed the knowledge firm of the First fall of Man;

A fall supreme, complete and sure. How simple, matchless even, that he,

Beelzebul, should close his eyes For one instant to thus

Secure the upper hand of Man. That he, in sooth,

Scant time should nod his cumbrous head In dreamless sleep before some sense

Unknown, alert; an instinct wrought
About the edge of sleep,
Him warned, instant and opportune,
To Man's ordeal;
In point of time the first great nurse
To scorn his charge, and him neglect
And so gain death instead of life
For him.

The same instinct
That waked, had warned him hold his tongue,
Throw up his head,
And backward look;

Thus fell Man Adam Beneath his power—but tempted not.

The senseless Man, within the sand Enshrined, lay still.

The bear

Rejoiced to have again her mate, The Man was dead; Alive or dead nothing Man was To her, happy the beasts had lived Before he came, and happy now He'd gone again.

Satan

Alone'd miss Man, but, laughing still, He saw the small
Bear rise, and quickly drop again;
She skurried on to her rough mate,
Together to the lake they came,

Together drank, returned, Then ran into the woods; as quick Returned from thence, And with them other bears.

Instinct

With inquiry, they rolled the Man
From out his grave into Sun's glare;
Around, and back and forth
Over the sands; with their pink tongues

They licked the Man; No sign of life gave he; and then Beast Satan wept; then groaned aloud

The lonely crocodile, and lashed

His body with his wings. He wept great drops, great streams of pearls

That shimm'ring ran

All down his slimy, skin-tight jaws, For long and vain he'd tried the heart And love of manly Adam to win.

To Satan, doubly doomed, His single loneliness seemed worse Than dual woe,

Now Adam was gone.

Satan himself Had long lost Heaven, and had attained, By many trials, on Earth foothold;

With him, could Adam have gone,

Almost in Hell would be again

Have taken up

His place. Earth gained, Man lost, was worse Than Hell; Adam gone, no use had he For either Heaven or Hell, the Earth

Was both; himself, Satan,

The most compacted far of all

Its molecules.

He grieving, lost himself. He wept Afresh.

He could not hope for death, Nor dream to enter Heaven, not e'en

Tho' penitent, unless

Himself he lost, and gained, instead,

A better life;

Another life, by entrance to

This earth, and thence through life and death

As mindless human being;

How

Accomplish it? Had he Not endless ages toiled to look At human kind?

But one of these he'd seen, but one, And he now dead, and fast to clay Turning before his eyes. His loss

Too great a punishment

Seemed then; to close one's eyes, because

Secure, and find

Sin stolen in, and Death; them he'd Forgot in love for that one Man.

"Out, wretched fiends," he gurgling

Moaned, "I call on God

"To drive you out; this is no place

"For such as you!

"Go, furious ones; seize tree, rock, fish; "The beasts, the birds, but let Man live.

"Adam's gone, you him have lost, he's safe 'In Heaven."

"In Heaven? E'en there

"He may remembrance take of me.

"My shape, vile and

"Ungainly, better mem'ry is

"Than that would be of heinous Sin,

"Which precedes Death one step.

"Had Adam

"Come forth from Heaven, he had

"No memory of it. God was

"A Presence loved;

"A Presence felt, oft coming; tho"

"So near, invisible to Man.

"That Presence seemed to love Man well, "The Sun Him loved, the great

"Blue Sun within its rim dazzling.

"I think me now

"Of how he daily bowed to it

"As God's great home."

Long in this vein

Sad Satan spake, and solace found

But sobbed the while, gath'ring

Himself into one huddled heap Of misery,

By grief poignant, devitalized; There Adam lay, a mortal clod Lifeless, beside the sandy dune;

The Sun warmed him, the bears With fuzzy tongues stroked on and on,

Nor wearied not;

From head to foot they Man did turn. Afresh burst forth the grief of him Satan called; he wept again, and cursed

Himself for that he'd slept;

All loss seemed his, his living heart

Within his breast

Was bursting with its pain of love For that which loveless was, and cold, And still, and gone away without

Good bye. 'Twas then began

The trumpetings of elephants,

And we who heard

Turned and beheld one than the rest Whiter, surpassing them by far In stateliness of form and mein,

Stride on alone. Upon Its back a shrouded figure sat.

The bears growled loud;

Quick scurried to the lake, swam through, Through bushes tore their way, soon passed From sight, and in the mountain's woods

Were lost.

Before the herd

The one lone elephant advanced,

Moved fast and still;

To Adam it came and stood, while from Its back the shrouded one arose

And in its shining draperies

Down floated to the ground,
It stretched its hands and touched the Man,
It turned him face
Upward, and gently breathed into
His mouth until the breast of Adam

Rose high; then forced the air forth from
The lips of Adam until
The breath of Man anew and wellEstablished was.

The figure, kneeling, paused and looked On Man, then in an instant rose, And took its place unwillingly

Upon its waiting beast;
Into its ear whisp'ring, left Adam
To softly breathing rest.

RECITATIVE.
ADAM'S CARES.



RECITATIVE.

Slowly the year had nearly run Its course; Adam sighed, for half his first, Best manhood' gone.

In thought he was
Oft lost; and in the vague

Remembrance of his death; he mourned That he still lived.

Almost was Satan Adam's friend; By night, by day he kept that most Unhappy Man in sight, and felt

A grief supreme, if Adam But gazed on other beast, beside Himself, intent.

The birds charmed Man; their birdlings, too; The blossoms, and the buds, not less Of trees, than those of Earth. Upon

His matted couch of grass
Not on the Earth, but on the great
Broad back of his
Strong elephant he lay, and dreamed—
His head upon the beast's huge head.
It fanned him with its ears; it seemed

To know Man home-sick was; It plucked bright blossoms from the trees, And fairest fruits, And held them over to the child-like Man, in hope to please or coax.

* * * * * * * *

Quick Adam moved, and roused himself,

His head on elbow leaned;—
A growl from out the far-off woods
Rolled down from heights
Beyond his sight; a strange but yet
A well-remembered sound, a growl;

And then appeared in view—a beast?

A man? a man-like beast,

Who walked erect like Adam, but dressed

In hairy skin.

Close at its side another shape Came shuffling on. Fast to its neck Were clinging forms, and they seemed gray,

And strange to us, and strange To Man, who with his hand his eyes Shaded and gazed.

The foremost man's exultant stride Showed by its pace it bore a prize Within its arms.

Upon its breast

There lay revealed to us, On closer view, four bundles held Of varying size

And shape; for two were rough and brown, And they were cubs of bears; and two Beside, most weakly clung, nestling

Close to the great bear's neck; Their skin seemed pink and white, like birds, These then it'd brought To Man.

My mate and I drew near, We looked inquiringly at Adam, Who, shivering, had raised himself

And upright sat, staring.
Satan glowering crouched, he'd never seen
A standing bear
But once before. What taught the bear
To stand? What right had it such near

Approach to Adam to make, while he Thus sat on elephant?

It was most strange.

The walking bears

Seemed bold, they looked Expectantly at Man; they'd brought Sweet honey-comb; with it, another Gift, and now presented it.

Beside the Man 'twas laid, The gift of two of Man's own kind,

Two infant men:

Then, backing off, the scornful bear Dropped to the ground two robust cubs, Its own. Were they helpless? They?

For had not they a great Bear-father? Close to neck cleaving Of Mother-bear,

Two others clung, pink-white, helpless; With their weak hands they grasped her neck And nestled, cuddling there in fear.

These Bruin raised, and laid Full gently, down by Adam, then dropped On all fours to

The ground. It caught its cubs and by Their mother laid the little bears.

She weary was of this most slow, Unusual work, weary Of walking far, and bringing in Her arms honey. While strange beasts to her head did cling; Relieved of these, at once she fell, She sank to earth; then leisurely

She nursed her cubs content, Her Bruin looking on. My mate

And I watched Adam.

Seated within his nest upon Great elephant, he gazed, speechless, Upon his naked, helpless young;
His offspring, weakly clothed.

In skin.

Had elephant beheld, Their questioned lives An answer and a finish might Have had.

A new cry then we heard, Adam heard it, too; list'ning, he looked To see from whence it might Have come;

A thin and wedge-shaped face, Chest viol-shaped; Within the face a mouth appeared And from it issued forth a wail, The strangest sound Adam's ear had heard.

It did not touch his heart, He did not know he had a heart; The cry rang loud, An answering cry in Adam arose, Not Pity's cry, his own despair Cried out. His arms the helpless one

Enclosed and it pressed close
To him, he could not help them if
They all should weep.
Why had the great bear-father brought
To him these large-of-head-and-smallOf-bodied things? He'd give them back
To it.

Thus we saw Man,
He helpless was; at side of him
And in his arms
Nestling, the Man beheld his soft
Image, the evolution of
Himself; his first, displayed there;
Four chimpanzees, the first

Of monkey-kind, should they to him Apologize?

No! they but looked at him who'd called

Them forth,—and cried again. They say The sun did dance, at which we closed Our eyes.

We birds are not
Allowed to love outside our kind,
(This reason is
We birds permitted are to live).
The small and weakly young ones moaned,
And trembling sobbed. Man Adam, himself

Trembling, bade elephant
Kneel down; then, from its side sliding,
He stooped him down
And gently laid his cub beside
The resting bear, that she might feed

It with her own.

Entreatingly
Adam looked at father-bear,
Which by him stood; then clambered to
His mat; from thence
He handed Bruin all the rest;—
Three weakling little man-like cubs.
With surly look the bear received

Them back into his care,
And growling to its mate some words
It laid them down.
The bear-cubs and the tiny men,
Beside their common nurse, fed soon
And well, and slept.

This was the tale
The gray doves told, they are
Our cousins from abroad, they roam
Where'er they will.



GRAY DOVES' STORY OF THE MAN CUBS.



GRAY DOVE'S STORY CONCERN-ING THE MAN CUBS.

It happened in the far-off woods, away, Were father-bear, and mother-bear. One day Six cubs beside her lay, two brown, four gray.

"Where did you find these grayling cubs, my dear?"

"I found them just beside my own, right here,
"They're not like mine, there's something wrong,
I fear."

"Do you stay here, and rest, and feed them all, "I'll go and search, and when you hear me call, "Bring every cub, and do not let one fall."

But father-bear returned alone, and cross, Without the white bear-mother; with the loss Of sleep and food. Then—with a mighty toss

Of his great head, declared aloud, "They must "Be man-cubs; now I think it fair and just "That he should take the care of them; I'll dust

"We'll take them with the honey, it is time; "He'll love his cublets, the're not mine, nor thine."

Day after day, most curiously,

Man Adam watched his cubs. He stroked Their sides, and saw in what, if aught,

They differed from their mates. Were these small beings like himself?

Or would they grow

Like birds? no wings he saw; and would Their skin be smooth and fine like his? Was he once small as they? Would they

Grow downy, like the birds? Or, like the bears, have fur? They ate, They grew, they came, They went like bears.

Their brother-cubs
Were sometimes rude and rough in play,
Then man-cubs took to climbing; first
To father-bear, and next

High there they sat, serene, Or, chatt'ring fast They broke off sticks and leaves; they tore Off blossoms; picked the fruits and nuts, And rained them rattling down, in gay

Mischief, upon the bears Below; Adam grieved, that these small cubs Could him out-climb.

He watched their pranks, they seemed to mock At him; he envious grew of them; He shuddered when they came too near;

The elephants, as one, Distrusted them; the crocodile Was jubilant.

Poor mother-bear, whose eyes once shone With fun, grew dull, and leaden-eyed; It dreadful was that she could care For such ungainly cubs

As these.

To trees.

Man would have gladly thanked

And petted her,

But half afraid was he of her

Rough mate, Man could not speak to her

When it was by, so shy he'd grown.

From time to time when brought

Bruin its young, not all were bears,

Two agile apes

Appeared; all in due time came more Strange beasts; and orang-cubs, in pairs Or threes, or singly strown; perchance Man evoluting out;

Man evoluting out;

A stroke far greater than the Man Could patiently

Endure.

Could there, indeed, be no Release? Again he thought, "And will "I have to choose a mate from these

"New beasts which last have come?"

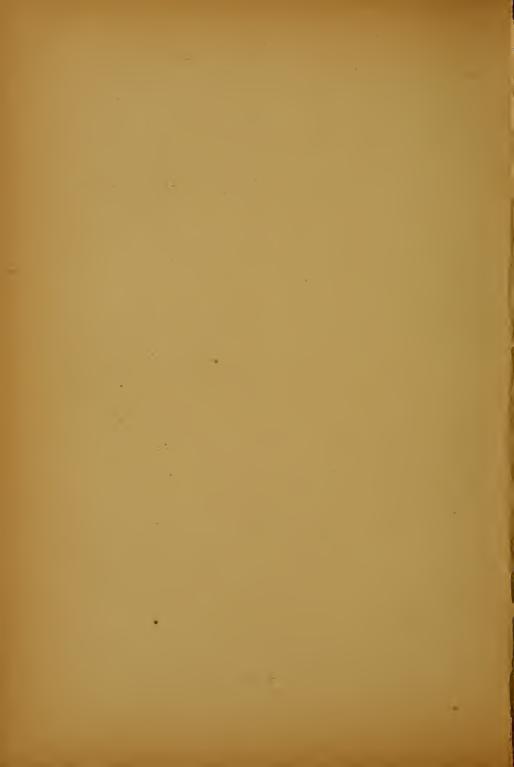
They had not made a kinship claim,

Nor had he made.

Should he again seek sleep like that He once had found? He from the back Of elephant could slip, and lay

Him in the lake; he'd look And see its utmost depths; he looked,

And saw-himself.



ADAM'S SONG TO HIS IMAGE REFLECTED IN THE LAKE.



SONG.

What's that being
Looking at me?
I can see its face.

I will go, and
Live beside it,
Wand'ring from this place.

I move, it moves
Coming to me,
We will here remain,

See its beauty,
I embrace it,—
It has gone again.

I will come—am
Coming. See it
Reaching toward me;—wait!

I come quickly
Thy hands holding.
They're so cold, my mate.

The Man was gone, his face so fair. With curls clust'ring; long locks, which fell In shim'ring waves about his form

Athletic, lithe, God-like; All gone in blindly seeking love However false.

The elephant seized Man, and dragged Him from the depths. Had it known him Incapable of sense it would

Have saved his lake-ward plunge;

Saved;—Man was well, but wroth.

Nor evermore

Could he approach its waves; for thorns Sprang up; the elephant forbade; Likewise the crocodile. From rocks

Not far away, a pure And glitt'ring fountain sprang, rippling And running down The sand, throwing itself within The lake beyond the bounds now set

For Adam; hedged out, by them, from death.

His life, though full of thought And simple learning of the ways Of plants, birds, beasts; Unhappy was; and Discontent Its arms about him threw at times; Then Horror seized, and crushed the Man

When he beheld the brutes Most like to him, and they did mock And leer at him.

RECITATIVE.
GOD'S PROMISE.



Ex. 22, 19;

LEV. 18; 23; 20, 15, 16;
DEUT. 27, 21.



RECITATIVE.

Time passed; a great hush fell one day, While sounds of music, low and sweet, Fell o'er Adam's soul, and swaying all

About him lay. It was Th' approach of God, in mortal form, He spoke, Adam heard. Each elephant a salute gave Noiseless; Man trembling sat.

God bade

Him come to Him; together stood The Twain.

Then passed each beast
In slow parade; the bears and Satan
Walked upright;
Of monkey-kind, not one was with
The beasts; they ranked themselves as birds
And sat in trees.

Now last of all,

Came soulful crocodile;
With rare glitt'ring he walked abroad
In bright sunshine.
His drooping wings, as graceful sleeves
Appeared; his tail, like trailing gown;
Modest his head was bowed; within
His heart was fear.

When Satan

Passed, God said—and we know how He thundered it—

Curst be the man who of a beast Does make his mate; he shall be put To death—and he shall have no part With Me, or Mine; nor in My sight, nor in My Heaven; for he Unworthy is.

Satan toiled on, his heart bereft Cried sharp, "In vain my glittering, "Am I not doomed to Hell direct?"

"My place, and outside show's "Decreed; and fixed my rank on Earth,

"I give up power,

"My heart wants love alone, not glint "Of sun on golden scales. I want

"Man Adam's love; from that now shut "By law, I dust would be,

"That roots of trees might pierce my sides,

"Or blossom fair

"My earthly body, hateful house,

"Might soon destroy. No change of place

"Nor shape—save by decree—to me "Can come; I thank thee, God;

"Since Earth a home for me allowed "Is,—I'll serve."

Long while he crouched, withdrawn apart From all the rest; then threw him down Upon his armored side, and thus

Discoursed unto the ground; "In gratitude I'll serve the Man

"For evermore."

"I've been in Hell,-and nothing there "Was worth the pains to go, or pains

"When there; escaped,—on Earth, bondage

"Itself is joy, bondage

"In service of a mind which learns

"By taking thought;

"Which finds a charm in life itself,

"And in its forced employ. At worst "Even Man, cast off from God, can live "The equal of the beast.

"I, Satan, shaped in Heaven, fell down

"To Hell's mid-depths."

"I am content to stay in mud "As earthly crocodile, rather "Than be confined in hearing of "Hell's discord; and its noise

"And clamor for 'The one who dragged "The Angels down."

In softened mood, he murmured on, "It is but just Hell-ward I should "Return; I'll go—if sent; once there, "I'll take it turn and turn

"About with Cerberus, and join "With him in toil

"Of keeping human beings out;

"Allowed on Earth, I'm spirit-slaved

"By something never felt before;

"It stirs my heart when Adam "But looks at me, it binds me fast.

"If love binds so

"Why should I care for power?

"Did God

"Want love? Was not He vastly more "Than satisfied with power? I had "The power to crush this Man: "His intense love I more desired.

"His gentle thoughts

"And works were wonderful to me.

"In Man is shown much more of rare

"Design than seems to run through dust, "Beasts, trees, the sky and lakes.

"Whatever eyes may rest upon

"He's more than all."

"His eyes subdue the skies; he's like "A tree; his feet the roots, his arms,

"His hands are branch and twigs; each shrub "Belittles him, and yet

"He's greater than them all; Man thinks."

"Is sign sufficient he can take

"Comfort at ease. Results he plans

"Beyond each brutish mind.

"In sand

"That's smooth, the shapes of trees "And rocks, now outlines he quite well; "Once he did more;

"Wet clay he moulded into balls; "Then balls of varied size and shape

"Made he; by twos these placed, then made
"Them like to me. It pleased

"Me well to have his glowing eyes

"Study my face

"And form, though hideous; these frail,

"Crude images broke he, at first—

"Then kept. The other beasts then he "Fashioned, until of us

"He had a whole menagerie.

"Thus then, worked he;

"He wanted but a model real,

"And fairly standing in his sight,

"Himself t'amuse with making men."

"His treasured images

"Are dust;—since monkeys look so like

"In kind to him,

"He's ceased his image-work."

To this

"The summary amounts: I, Satan, "Must help Man right to do, or fall "Both headlong back to Hell.

"It easy is to think, but on

"All fours to walk,

"Or strange to look upright on twos "Is easier far for Hell's once chief,

"Than joyous be in their doing. 'As crocodile I these

"Can do, can watch, can wait, could snatch

"Man up when wrong;

"In stress could swallow him; and, quite "Content, make food for worms; this I'll

"Reserve 'til all things else have failed.

"But now, 'tis better far

"That I, a love-sick crocodile,

"Bestir myself

"At once, and think while serving, how

"I best can aid the Man content,

"Eternally."

So dreamed aloud The crocodile, until

His dreams almost an angel's seemed Even to us birds.

He saw himself, by nature's force And time; to worms, and useful juice Of plants reduced, and thought what plant

He'd choose to give his life Unto. If choice were freely given He'd be a vine—

A vine with fruitage;

But a vine

Would climb; would that please Him who sat Above, and ruled small Earth, and made

The elements which formed The Earth? As Angel he had climbed, And been thrown down; As vine, he'd crawl, nor cast aloft One leafy branch; his ripened fruit Could feed the birds, and they could sing

God's praise; the sound could go

Below, above; and should his soul, Cast forth from out His form, by vine-root's grasp, find Hell Its restless, endless home; e'en there The melodies of birds, vine-fed,

Might pierce their way, and bring Comfort in midst of gnawing pain's

Discouragements.

His changing, fettered heart Hell's census Took, counting the spirits bound At will, at council called in Heaven.

Could he release them all Should he return? They'd followed him In truth, but why? He'd not compelled, and Hell itself Might change, now he was out. It had Of Heaven the mental elements;

Musicians in one discord
Fuged; Heaven's music far away;
Ear tortured they;
Great artists, who'd oft done the clouds
Of Heaven in tints by them alone
Impossible; God's alchemists

Direct' their work in Heaven,

None fallen were.

Throughout the list,

In thought, he went;
Nor could he deem but they as well
Without his ken,—for present needs;
Later, if ordered there, he'd go

And suffer, too, if they Released were not; to Earth and shape He yet was bound.

To his keen, anguished sense had come God's words to Adam, he thought he knew Their meaning well, if Adam could

Not love a beast, his fate, In present outer shape, was fixed. A mental beast, Intolerant and vain, he once Had been; Hell's fires had calcined part;

But, fitted to his shape, his mind

Had filled it out complete 'Til Adam came, and in his sweet Companionship

He learned a meaning new to him;

That power existed out of self, And was a Spirit, sent from God,

Which conquered other loves,

Beside the love for God Supreme,

Throughout all space.

This fainting Satan'd learned.—Adam heard God's words, but did not catch their thought Of awful import.

God called Adam
To stand near Him; then called
The apes; He called for all the race
Of monkey kind.

These showed to Man. Are these thy sons? Man Adam? dost thou call such as these Daughters and sons? Hast thou no soul?

The Man looked at the tribe Before him grouped, but said no word; He did not know.

At their lean arms he looked, at his; Saw their shorn heads, felt his long locks Of waving earth-red hair, and brow

All decked with little curls, Which oft he'd plucked out by the roots, And felt no hurt—

Because his eyes they'd covered up. At quadrumanian feet he glanced, And at his shapely ones; in one

Swift glance surveyed The man-like, climbing beasts; his own Fair skin was smooth, Theirs hairy was. Chatt'ring, toward him They stretched their hands; Adam cast himself Face down to earth,—Hast thou done this?

Then thou shalt die. God grasped
The Man, and high he lifted him—
My mate then spoke,

A soft "Ya-hu; Ŷa-hu."* The Lord Of Heaven heard, If this bird speaks Shall I not hold mine wrath? The Man

Must know he has a soul,
And feel the grasp of pain. Slow down
The Man was lowered:

The Man was lowered;

The Earth he touched, and then the Lord, Who could Man's shrinking side have crushed, Clutched it.

Thou hast a soul, it feel. With wrench of hand, twisting

The muscles hard. He watched Adam's face, Thence came a sound

From out Adam's mouth; the first great "Oh!" Of pain; this all the list'ning Earth's Resounding waves answered; the sound

Circling, went swirling round From every tree, rock, hill and plain; That "Oh" of pain,

That cry of pain; that something which, Not seen, nor heard, made self supreme; It was then born, nor time, nor love,

Nor fear could prove to Man
Its non-existence; God then loosed His hand,
Pains like thy soul,
Feel'st thou thy soul? It shall thee chide,
And thou'lt be true and clean in time.
A kindred mate thou'lt have like to

Thyself and she will seem
Thy soul; with thee will live; she'll thee
Surpass in grace;
In wisdom be thy peer; and far
Beyond in seeing quick and clear

*"Oh God, oh God."

A future good; thou'lt her excel In strength, regarding needs At hand superlative. But thou Thyself must curb.

Thou'lt have thy separate soul, nor canst Thou always have thy mate with thee; Each sight of her, her every act,

Should thee remind—in some Degree—of Me, and what I thee

Have told.

Love Me supreme; then, if she fails, I'll comfort thee.

Rest now, within

Mine arms; I'll hold thee close; rest Man, And sleep; I love thee so.

Thou'lt live; and work, and sing. Again I'll come, and when

I come, thou'lt sleep so sound thou'lt have No knowledge what I bring to thee Until thou seest my good gift.

The pain-tired eyelids closed,
His Father holding him; He smoothed
Adam's knitted brows,
And sang to him. The birds mingled
Their songs with His. No words were sung;
But sounds since used by insect choirs,

To lull to sleep; He bent And kissed the Man, and laid him down And went away.



RECITATIVE. ADAM'S WAITING.



RECITATIVE.

At dawn, and day by day, Adam waked And prostrate bowed before the Sun As place, he thought, most like the home Where God might dwell. He loved To think of Him, although to grieve

God's heart he feared.

Himself he bathed within the rock-Fountain; he learned to whistle; sung The songs of little birds,—that he

Might sing them to his mate When she should come; as had in faith Been promised him.

Now garlands fair he wove, to deck His coming bride; her wanting, wreathed With them great elephants. Of trees

With swaying branch, festoons He made, which ran from tree to tree, He grief forgot.

He stored up honey in a cave
He'd built of stones; about its sides
Heaped sand and moss; with joy his heart
Was filled.

His fear and dread Constant became, lest apes should turn To men like him; But no, a magic bound seemed set. He grieved where they at aught surpassed, For they could climb secure. What if

His mate should long for that Beyond his grasp? but then, he thought, Will she not love

A Man more than a climbing beast, However high its place? Waiting, The Man of best would worthy be;

Working, be worthy Heaven. Within his side, a throbbing heart

He felt; oft times

It beat with fear if he but looked Out toward the dreadful, man-like apes; With joy and reverence it beat

When he recalled to mind The faithful promise God had made While hushing him, No longer home-sick, tired, nor robbed Of sleep—unless for very joy.

We thought it strange, I and my mate
Whom I so dearly loved;
Beside a promised mate, this newMade Man had then
A soul, which more and better was.
Since soul and life seemed each a part

Of each, we, too, wished for these souls.

The life of Man my mate
Had saved, Would God not give us birds
A living soul?

We'd sing; and wait, and see, for we Him also loved.

RECITATIVE.

THE COMING OF EVE.



RECITATIVE.

Like other days, the longed-for day Dawned clear. When rolled the sun on high Our quiet hour disturbed was;

The twitt'ring silence of The wood awoke to trumpetings Unusual.

Advanced full soon toward us a tribe Of elephants, vast beasts and white Compared with those of Eden, our home.

Upon them rode in state Spirits of might in garments clothed From Heaven's looms.

The Lord of all came, too. Swiftly Appeared a newly opened plain Hedged thick with thorns, all blossoming;

Mountains, rocks heaped on rocks
Encircling and receding rose
Beyond the hedge,
Their cones the azure sky piercing,
Shone luminous with snow and ice

Beneath sun rays; rays dazzling still
'Though passing fast fair Eden's
Meridian. Then Paradise
In brightness gleamed.
Appeared an entrance new; through this,
With measured tread, the stately herd

Their precious burdens bore, nor saw

The Man these shining forms, Nor heeded he; his senses fine In sleep were locked.

Transplendent ones, Angels from Heaven, Eden's bowers amidst, sat mute and gazed Upon their heavy, lumbering steeds;

Nor knew that these were kings Of beasts, and trained to follow sounds

Angels heard not.

Of sound these beasts each modulation Knew that breathed in vain to harps Within Angelic ears; so trained

Were they to signals given
That without thought the Angels rode,
Marched, throned on them,
Eden's bowers amidst; and sate transfixed
Beneath its fragrant, spicy shade;
Beheld entranced its beauteous

Simplicity; saw Adam Unconscious that to him was given

An homage rare.

The palms in Eden were wonderful, Both greater and the lesser kinds, Gathered in groups, and set in lanes;

In vain search we, to Heaven They were transplant' to charm the sight Of Angels there.

Within Eden's entrance was the small Rock-fountain Adam loved, not far Beyond, stored safe, sweet honey-hoard

In caches made by him Within the ground; the busy man Had right to rest.

So sound Adam slept, that all had passed Each to his place and statue-like Remained, like Burmahn idols carved From tabreez-stone. Adam's herd, With watchful eyes that turned toward him, Stood guard.

The elipse complete, at farther end An altar stood of stone; huge, vast, Entire; a monolith scarred not

By human hands; there lay Lilies of creamy hue, and white, Like Easter flowers; Pale roses, smooth of stem, blushing; Chrysanthemums; of violets, A fragrant, incense shedding cloud;

Spice-weed and ferns; on edge Of rock these found a footing place And seemed to thrive; While, from its base, wild columbine Sprang up,

A plant designed in Heaven, And thence transplant' by eagle's aid

To Earth. Such gard'ning done, Aquila seemed to watch their growth In nature's care.

Secure their earthly home, and growth Assured, from out their shapely gold And scarlet throats music came forth

From earth, by dainty stem
Conveyed. So still it was, we heard
The ferns bend down
To catch the sounds from out these flowrets
Spreading horns; sweet sounds from Heaven.

We held our breath in fear to miss
One note, for only then
Were they connected up by wires
Invisible.
Their golden throats resounding rang
With harmonies from Heaven afar,
And carried thence through endless space;
Seraphs the players were.

In time, ears trained will hear these tones And learn Heaven's songs; The bad then good will grow; that they May onward follow to the source Of perfect harmony.

Then first
Was felt the thrill which greets
Orchestral score, created by
A thinking mind;
Not nature's tuneful pipings, squacks
And roars; but all subdued to place
And harmonized in Heaven;

'Twas bliss
To hear; a glorious, hushed
Salute of honor; first to God,
Then Man, God's work.

Stood all the beasts in place, nor moved 'Til music ceased, for sweet and clear A love-song rose; Earth's love to God, And Heaven's to God, and God's

To new-made Man, who lay asleep Within his nest.

Out toward the monolithic stone
The largest of the stranger herd
Walked slow; something upon it lay

Which glistened white; and laced About with strands as fine as spiders Ever spin;

Amidst the filmy strands, wove in And out were blossoming lotus, pink And white; above, one lotus lay,

All gold at heart, petaled With crimson hue; the sacred plant Of Indes' land.
All wreathing, binding it in place, A purple passion-vine entwined

Itself;

Within the wreathing vines
And milk-white swathing webs
Lay gentle Eve, in dreamless sleep's
Embrace enwrapped.
Beneath her head an Angel's folded
Wing, above her lay its mate,
Her form from rays of sun shielding,
Once more of use to her

Before its final dissolution, since It was willed so.

God touched the Man to waken him, This is thy mate—Man Adam—wake! Look! here's thy mate; loved Adam, live And with her tend this place,

Keep thou My law, and forget not Oh, son of Mine—

I've given thee all thou needest here And made the earth so fair that thou Canst perfect be, nor think of sin.

Work then, and live; sinning Thou'lt die, and be shut out from Heaven,

Away from Me.

Then ceased the words; an influence sweet Enthralled the Man beyond the power Of simple words.

His elephant
Was courteous host alike
To Angel guest and waiting beast,
In place of Man.
Beside the stranger elephant
Stood Adam's faithful guard, nor of

Stood Adam's faithful guard, nor did It think but that its guest and Adam's

The other was, its look Indifferent, tho' watchful it Of child-like Man;

It served an unseen guide in all
Its ways with Adam, and came and went
According to command of that

Great Presence, which controlled Both them, and every living thing But mortal Man.

The Earth was made laws to obey Not made for Man; he was to have No laws save those to labor, and To love.

Heaven's walls'd enclosed

An idler's paradise, hence un-Provoked revolt. The pit of Hell nothing contained Of love, nor were revolting souls Contented there.

A new Earth placed, How could Man's life be planned And simplified toward liberty And happiness?

Let Man be law; a perfect Man Could need no perfecting; could run In circle small for aye; while Earth,

In circle not so strict,
Would take the Man around, and tilt
Him back and forth
Within a circling year, to climes
Untold; he could stand still, and have
Variety. What use had Man

For laws? chance might account To him for everything, which he Himself wrought not. Should man inquire, and search, some laws He'd find, binding material things; For self, no laws; could aught spoil such

A work? The plan'd been wrought With thought for child-like Man, who slept Like any child.
Unmindful lay he in his mat

On elephant, asleep. At last

His spirit heard; his body still
Engulfed in sluggish rest.
Beast Satan heard, "This Man's law was,
"'Obey and work."

Man must obey without a thought
Or knowledge of result;—save this,
That God would be displeased, and Heaven
Would be no place for him.
That God should wish a home where He
Could be at peace
Was far beyond the serpent's ken;
He hoped Man would obey; but cast
An anxious thought out toward the form
Which lay so closely swathed;

Its coming moved torment anew Within his heart.

One law had shut him out from Adam, The law of kind; 'til now they two In loneliness were equals both;

Far better so, than Adam And Eve content, and he alone, And in their sight.

"Adam not alone"?—his envy burned,
Again he vows forgot, his soul
Shuddered; on that one chance alone
Could he gain Heaven; he could
Find blessedness complete for him
As Adam's friend.

"What lay within those swathing folds?"
Quick ran his thoughts all knowledge through,
Experience to him had come

In line of "warriors, powers, And principalities;" not maids
In silk cocoon.

Should she prove precious, he with Adam Could strive; and, conquering him, bear off His mate.

A tree forbid grew near; Around its base a screen Of ferns and fennel grew, a safe And near retreat.

Cast he a look toward Man, as one In act to spring; he paused, then crouched He low; and lying on the ground,

Amidst the ferns and flowers That girt the great tree's base, he made His silent way.

Then we forgot the slimy beast Which lay beside the "knowledge-tree;" Nor saw we him again 'til days

To weeks and months had run, So still he lay that we drew near The sleeping pair.

Observant, from the perfumed rock, The Presence of the Lord saw all, Himself invisible; then rose

Enchanting music's chords
From golden trumpet throats, to ears
Of Angel guests
Who raised their heads, surprised; the sounds
Familiar seemed; they were transmit'
To far off Earth, from Heaven direct,

By grounded circuit, through The columbine; a perfect flower designed For Paradise.

To make Earth Heaven, it nothing lacked; God's presence; Angels; all that art Could paint, or ear enjoy,—why wake

That drowsy Man? He seemed

The center of all interest To eye and thought.

When God elects to be alone He draws angelic bounds, Himself Invisible.

Great storks from sky
Descend', themselves adjust
On ledge of rock, and nestle there
Like little birds
Beside the parent bird. Hushed were
Our simple notes; while high from out
The aquilegia's horns loud tones
Symphonious rose, tho' played

In distant Heaven, and played to wake

The dreaming Adam.

Of stranger herd of elephants
One only there remained, and it
The leader was, and bore a Queen

To grace the waiting Earth. Adam's faithful guard, bearing the Man,

Stood, with its mate;

Of Adam's herd, all else had gone; Each, passing by, had paired with one Of stranger herd; they slowly paced In solemn march.

The white

Beast's glitt'ring riders turned, each one, And looked toward Adam. The Angels passed the leafy gate Nor saw it once; intent were they On Eden's bloom, and its one Man.

Full gently had great ropes
Of bloss'ming vines swung down; to their
Fixed resting place
They swung, and held the passage-way
Secure.

The glitt'ring ones were shut
Without, to heavenly march which oft
They'd heard, and followed where
It called; their earthly steeds had heard,
And ordered march
In spite of them;

They were shut out,
Those shining ones, but knew it was
A part of some wise plan. In thought
In Eden they lingered still;
Shut out, they felt at liberty
To roam at will;

They saw how planned was Earth, so placed For Man's abode, that Angels e'en Might be content, environed so;

Man's limitations felt—
For Man must step, or creep, or jump—
Of upward flight incapable,—
They'd Angels be.

Earth's freedom they'd Enjoy, now their's it was; to Heaven

Return content—unless, as now—When earthward sent as choicest of Heaven's messengers.

Within Eden's bounds two beings lay Upon whose fate unmeasured woes Or many joys for ages wait.

Since then, no one can say
That God's to blame for aught, save once,
Or, maybe, thrice;

A massage sent to Noah when

A message sent to Noah when About the Earth to drown; He called Forth Abraham, who would have lived

His century, and three-Score years and ten, without God's call; He Angels sent To warn; and gave men dreams; aside From these,—

And the one time when from His throne His Son went forth to save What seemed to Him—the Son— Such mighty loss of souls and lives; No record's given.

Since God then, made one soul to live Upon this Earth, He lets all live, And work with tremblings oft their own Salvation out, unless They take that offered through His Son; God's Man was Adam.

Unconscious Man slowly awaked And turned himself, and looked; what noise Had him disturbed; and, whispering low Of coming joy-and him Cursing—had gone away? Into The sky he gazed, It seemed the same; but as he rose He glanced around; his dreaming must Be true; a garden strange he saw;

The tree was safe near which His store of honey lay concealed,— And rock-fountain:

Amazed, he sat upright, and then— Saw Eve, a white cocoon, all bound About with swathing, filmy threads, Milk-white, and strong; held fast By wreathing, purple-blossomed vines Of passion-flower.



DOVE'S SONG TO THE PASSION VINE.



SONG.

"O Passion-vine, so rough and blue,
Dear Passion-vine, hold fast and true,
Thy branches clasp a soul within,
A soul which has no thought of sin."

"Loved Passion-vine, could we, like thee Bind life and immortality, The blood-drops from our hearts we'd give To see thy pris'ner rise, and live."

Upon his friendly, waiting beast Adam closer drew, to see within The chrysalis;

From its rent side
A bare, pink arm shone through
Its web-like, spun-silk covering
To greet his eyes;

From the fair arm drooped, nerveless, a Slim wrist and hand; a human hand Like his. At signal by Man given His elephant knelt down

Beside the standing one.

Strange sight;

Adam stood, and stared; A mortal hand; a pinkish arm And wrist; escaping from a rent Within a great cocoon; as fair And smooth as those from which He'd seen emerge great butterflies And brilliant moths.

He studied the small hand; and clasped It in his own firm hand. He saw The covering Angel's wing, caught down

By slightest strands of film;
He saw the wing was laid above
The cocoon's silk
And did not pass within, as did
The hand and arm.—My mate and I
Had left our nest and young alone,

That seeing,—we might see
And know Adam's every act, and word,
And very thought.

He placed Eve's hand in his, her wrist
He gently moved, and lifted it;
He touched her arm; with his cold hand
He snapped the thread that held
The covering Angel's wing in place;
It fell to dust.

He heeded not, but looked where it Had lain, and saw—Eve's gracious face, Her quiet, sleeping face; this then

Was real; but not like his
The face;—within the fountain's rim
He had learned his,
And oft had played at mirroring
Himself, to prove identity.
She could not fly away,—as did

The birds; one wing was gone, She could not fly with one alone; And then Adam smiled.

Her slender wrist lay still within His hand,—warm now—his blood lagged not, But shot throughout his veins like rays
Of living fire. He was
Alone with her he had a legal
Right to love.

His waving hair fell to his feet—
His body veiled; it custom was
To him, when sought he sleep. He'd bound
It fast with clematis
Which, like a well-wrought broidery,
A royal robe
For this first earthly princeling made.

He looked again, and caution came
To him; he thought how oft he'd all
Too rough handled the homes
Of birds in trees, or e'en the silk
Of blossoms bright;

Eve's tranquil, breathing face was fair, Compared with any flower he knew; Close round her brow, serene and still, Curled rings of hair, like vine-Tendrils, unlike was she to all Beside himself.

Adam knew Eve's hand was warm; and in Her wrist a throbbing stroke of life Ebbed to and fro, like that his heart Sent running, coursing all Throughout his veins; if he but dared He'd rend the web.



SLEEPY MOCKING BIRD'S SONG.



SONG.

"O, Adam, be content, hasten
And go away;
What's hidden here, will keep 'til morn,
It's come to stay.

Those heavy eyelids, weighted down,
Have hid from view
The learning of their loss of Heaven,
Because of you.

Go, Adam, thou hast been asleep,
And from thy side
Enough of mortal clay hast lost
To form thy bride.

Her soul is what she brought from Heaven, And that's asleep, Don't wake her, first of mortal Men, But silence keep."

We Doves, alarmed, thought of our nest
And little birds therein; the night
Might fall, ere Adam had seen his mate;
We chirped and cried; we ceased
In fright, the Man had heard; he raised
His eyes in thought.

Eve's hand he clasped above his heart
In sweet contentedness; unto
Fast setting sun his face he turned
And raised his hand toward Heaven,
He God's self thanked for happiness
Almost complete;

Besought his Father to remain A Presence ever near, and prayed Him help His Adam keep in mind His promises.

A mid-Day gleam of light on Adam shone While gentle Man Over himself the mastery Of God's love felt,

His hand rent then The sheltering web, revealing her, For him fit mate.

Adam looked; Then softly touched her wakeful, blushing, Sleepy face. EPILOGUE.



EPILOGUE.

I fast was shut in dungeon's walls,
A prisoner released from death;
And then, released from blindness' thralls
I listened there, with bated breath

To Palm Dove, spent with flying far, Which fell on window ledge, its "coo" Not that of other doves; through bar Of window grate it took; "Ya-hu."

"Ya-hu," its cry; "Oh God! oh God!"
The meaning was, it fed with me,
And slept beside mine head. Had rod
Of gold blossomed, could word from God

Be sent by Dove again? "Release "Me God, from hence; the word of Dove "I'll then translate; it should speak 'Peace', "Man's raging hate toward Thee, to love

"Should turn; for all in sight that's now "Fresh from Thy hand, is beauty yet; "Nor Art, Science, nor thought from brow "Of man evolved, can e'er beget

"More than the ant, or bee, or flash
"Of lightning wild, should ages since
"Have taught to him. With Thee, no trash
"Of wheat unsearched through is." The
Prince

Of Peace was wise; that Earth was round, It nothing was, to tell; the course Of stars; Earth's poise in space, if found In time would small use be; man's force

Too puny far, them to control.

He showed himself God's son, and said
"'My Father does these works;" 'A soul
"'That's saved, is worth the Earth, but
dead

"'In sin;' 'I come to save;' 'Dost thou
"'Love me?' My father will love thee
"And thou in city fair shalt bow
"In praise; 'Thy shining mansion see

"'Where many mansions are.'" The Dove Within my cell found rest; and I Did talk with it; my spirit throve As fed on Manna from the sky.

Released from care, shut out from friend,
No prison wall held me; in green
Valley I lived; flowers before me bent;
Within my flesh I walked unseen,

The I the Dove did recognize
As from my casement opened wide
It flew refreshed toward Paradise
Its mate to see, its Spirit Bride.





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